

McGill Daily

VOL. VIII. No. 105

MONTREAL, FRIDAY, MARCH 14, 1919.

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BIG SUCCESS ASSURED FOR JUNIOR PROM.

All Arrangements Have Been Made for the Evening

FEW TICKETS REMAIN

Officers of the 42nd Battalion Have Been Invited to Attend

All arrangements for the Junior Dance to be held to-night are completed, and a decidedly pleasant and successful evening has been assured. This function is the first of the kind to be held for several years, but in pre-war days it was an established fixture, and was eagerly looked forward to by Juniors and their friends. This year, however, owing to the small number of '20 men, it has been possible to place the tickets at the disposal of the other classes. Up to last night two hundred tickets, that is for two hundred couples, had been sold, and it seems that without a doubt the sale will be stopped early to-day, as the committee do not wish the hall to be overcrowded.

As previously announced, both the upper ball-room and the second floor lounge room will be used for dancing. This is quite an innovation and will leave plenty of room for the many people attending. Work has been going on for the past week getting the floor into shape, and a fine condition is promised. The music upstairs will be furnished by Berliner's Orchestra from the Ritz-Carlton. This aggregation is well known and can be trusted to render a programme of decided merit. In the lounge room, Eckstein's Jazz Band will endeavour to add new laurels to its name. This band also has an enviable reputation, and will be remembered for its fine rendition of music at last year's Medical dance. The same programme will be followed by both orchestras, and hence no inconvenience should be experienced.

Least there be any mistake regarding the supper, it may be well to repeat what has already been stated. Owing to the large number of people who will be in attendance, and to the smallness of the dining room, it will be necessary to have two sittings. The first will be immediately after the ninth dance, and during it there will be two extras. After these the second group will sit down. In this way it is hoped to obviate any crowding and discomfort. The menu has been prepared by Joyce, whose handling of the Union Dance catering met with the approval of all. The food will be sent up in two batches, thus ensuring its freshness (Continued on Page 2)

ALL LECTURES OFF FOR STUDENTS' SOC. MEETING

All Classes to Come to Semi-Annual Meeting in a Body

A meeting of the class Presidents was held in the Board Room of the Union yesterday afternoon at 5.00 o'clock to discuss the semi-annual meeting of the Students' Society to be held next week. It was decided that every class would come down to the meeting in a body to hear the reports for the year and discuss the plans for next session.

This meeting is the most important of the season and will be attended by every student in the college. The meeting will take place at 10.00 o'clock on Wednesday morning, next. Lectures will be suspended from 10.00 until 1.00 o'clock in order that every man will be able to attend.

It was also decided at yesterday's meeting that every effort would be made to render the B. W. & F. smoker a huge success. This smoker is the first of its kind to be held for some time and will undoubtedly prove very popular. Several bouts will take place among the students as well as exhibitions between local amateurs. A professional bout will be staged as well, and two well known men are being secured. The tickets, which may be obtained from the class presidents, will be sold at fifty cents for admission and seventy-five cents for ring-side seats.

It was announced that tickets were selling very rapidly for the Track Meet; ladies may be taken to this meet as well as to the Aquatic Meet to be held on April 5.

WHAT'S ON

To-day.

1.00 p.m.—Meeting of Arts Undergrad.
1.05 p.m.—Meeting of "Daily" Staff in Union.
5.00 p.m.—Students' Council Meeting.
5.00 p.m.—Meeting of Chemical Society in Chemistry Building.
5.00 p.m.—Meeting of Swimming Club in Union.
5.00 p.m.—Basketball Practice for Junior Team, Central Y.M.C.A.
5.30 p.m.—Meeting of Returned Meds. in New Medical Building.
8.00 p.m.—Junior Dance.

Coming

March 15, 2.30 p.m. — Boxing and Wrestling at Union.
March 15—McGill vs. North Branch Senior Basketball.
March 17 — Elections for Students' Council.
March 19—Indoor Track Meet.
March 20—Arts Undergrad. Dinner at Windsor.
March 22—B. W. and F. Smoker.
March 24—E. F. Surveyor, K.C., on the "Government of the Province," at Strathcona Hall.
April 5—McGill Aquatic Meet.

ENTRY LIST SWELLS FOR TRACK MEET

Entries Will Close Saturday Evening Without Fail

LIST OF OFFICIALS

Final Arrangements Completed and Many Tickets Sold

The largest number of entries, seen for some years, has been made for the Indoor Track Meet to be held next Wednesday evening, in the Drill Hall. The list in the Union already shows a large number of names and, in addition, the class representatives to the Track Club have each special lists of the entries from their own number which they will add to the final list. Every event will have many contestants and it will not be surprising if some indoor records are made.

The entry list will close on Saturday at 5.00 o'clock, and the executive of the Track Club announce that no entries will be accepted after that date. This is absolutely necessary in order that the programmes may be printed and the prizes prepared for the events, so that no excuse can be offered for not registering in time.

BASKETBALL TEAM IS READY FOR SATURDAY

Win From North Branch Will Give McGill Championship

The game to be played between McGill and North Branch seniors will undoubtedly be one of the most interesting seen this season.

The North Branch team is considered to be one of the strongest teams in the city, and so far, have not been defeated on their own floor, this season. Should McGill accomplish the task of winning the game they will have the right to be called undisputed champions of the city.

In addition to the fact that North Branch are the hardest team in the league to defeat, McGill will have to win in order to maintain their position at the top of the league. Should the Red and White win the game they will have the championship of the league without doubt, as their is only one regular game and one postponed game to play besides this. The regular game is with the weakened Shamrock team and should be an easy victory for the college men. If they win this game it will be unnecessary to play the game with M. A. A. excepting as an exhibition.

Before the senior game to-morrow night a contest will be staged between the North Branch juniors and a team composed of members of the Arts and Medicine basketball teams. This game should prove very interesting as it will be between the same teams as played last Saturday when the McGill men won.

Any man who would like to see the game can do so by going to the North Branch Y. M. C. A. gymnasium at 2300 Park Avenue.

McGILL DAILY STAFF.

An important meeting of the Daily staff will be held in the Union at 1.05 o'clock this afternoon.

Every man who works on the paper is asked to be on hand, as important business will be discussed, including the amendment of the Daily constitution.

McGILL MEN TO RETURN ON TUESDAY

Princess Pats Will Be Given Welcome

5th C. M. R. ALSO

List of Former Students Now Coming Back is Long

McGill has a special interest in the 5th Canadian Mounted Rifles, whose arrival is expected on Tuesday next. The Mounted Rifles, though from the Eastern Townships, claim many McGill men in its ranks. The regiment established a wonderful record for themselves in France. After fighting in all the heavy actions during 1916-17-18, they added to their laurels at Cambrai. After the taking of this city the regiment was specially mentioned in despatches.

McGill men who were in the 5th C.M.R. were Lieut.-Col. G. H. Baker, Law, '00, M.P. for Brome, killed at Maple Copse, June 2nd, 1916; Major Kenneth L. Duggan, Arts '13, Sci. '15, killed at Passchendaele, October 30th, 1917; Lieut. Geo. Hannah; Lieut. H. J. Daubney, M.C.; Capt. J. A. Lalanne, M.C.; Lieut. Harry Rogers, Sci. member of football team; Lieut. J. S. Harold, Arts '14; Lieut. A. Otty, killed at Maple Copse, June 2nd, 1916; Lieut. Tony Hall, Sci., killed at Passchendaele, October 30, 1917; Capt. L. K. Greene, Sci. '20; Lieut. Dugall Cushing, Arts and Law, transferred to R.A.F., prisoner for two years; Lieut. Eric Chauvin, Arts, killed at the Somme, Sept. 15, 1916; Lieut. Ireland; Lieut. Paul S. Clark, member of the 2nd football and hockey teams, 1913-14, 1914-15, killed at Sanctuary Wood; Sergt. Eddie Barrett, Arts, killed at Maple Copse, June 2, 1916; Pte., now Capt., W. C. Nicholson, M.C., D.S.O., Arts '13, Law '16, now Law '20, President of McGill Daily; Pte. Bouthillier, Sci.; Sergt., later Lieut., H. Matheson, Arts '13; Sergt. John Jess; Pte. Eric Ford, Arts '14, killed at Sanctuary Wood, June 1, 1916; Pte. Bill Weir, killed at Maple Copse, June 2, 1916; Capt., now Major, Bill McConnell, Arts '13, Theology, now head of Chaplain Service of Forestry Corps in France; Pte., later Lieut., C. S. Martin, M.C., killed Aug., 1918; Lieut. J. Hanratty, former secretary of Students' Council.

Two of the battalion's most famous men were McGill men—Lieut.-Col. G. R. Peakes, V.C., D.S.O., M.C., and Lieut. C. S. Rutherford, V.C., M.C., M.M. These two men enlisted as privates (Continued on Page 2)

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THE SEMI-ANNUAL MEETING.

The meeting of the class presidents held yesterday to discuss the semi-annual meeting of the Students' Society, to be held next Wednesday, marks a revival of interest in student activities. The Students' Society meetings were the most important events of the session, before the war, but they have been only a matter of form for the last few years.

Important plans have been prepared for the resumption of activities on a large scale next year, and they will be discussed by the students at this meeting. Although students are elected to conduct the various activities about the college, yet the opinion of the student body is always welcome, and in many cases necessary, and for this reason the meetings of the Students' Society are necessary.

At the present time the men in charge of affairs must necessarily feel some hesitation about launching forth on a new programme, and the expression of opinion by the student body will serve to guide them in their policy for next year.

Even were such a gathering not interesting, it is certainly the duty of every member of the Students' Society to attend its meetings, especially as these take place only twice a year. The college authorities consider the meeting important enough to warrant the cancellation of lectures, in the eyes of the students it should be much more important.

THE JUNIOR DANCE.

To-night will witness the revival of an old precedent at McGill, to wit, the holding of a Junior dance. This year may rightly be called the year of reorganization, and no endeavour in this line is more deserving of praise than that which attempts to further the social life of the college in such a way as does this function.

Extensive preparations have been made by an enterprising committee, and it seems quite likely that the oft repeated threat of limiting the number of tickets will have to be enforced.

In the news columns of to-day's issue appear all the details of the dance. It will be noticed that both the ballroom and the lounge room are to be used for dancing. This is a state of affairs that has not been seen for years, and is a sure sign that there is a new manifestation of college spirit, and truly none too soon.

Finally, we wish to congratulate the committee in charge, who despite the discouraging signs of the past, undertook to arrange an affair of the first magnitude, and through their untiring efforts have made it an assured success. We believe that we do not exaggerate when we predict that the result will be beyond even their most sanguine expectations.

LEIGH HUNT'S FRIENDSHIP WITH KEATS.

In his "Life of Keats," Sir Sidney Colvin relates that in the spring of 1816 Cowden Clarke made known to Leigh Hunt "first some of Keats' efforts in poetry and then Keats himself."

"Here is his story of what happened."

"I took with me two or three of the poems I had received from Keats. I could not but anticipate that Hunt would speak encouragingly, and indeed approvingly, of the compositions—written, too, by a youth under age; but my partial spirit was not prepared for the unhesitating and prompt admiration which broke forth before he had read twenty lines of the first poem. Horace Smith happened to be there on the occasion, and he was not less demonstrative in his appreciation of their merits."

"After making numerous and eager inquiries about him personally, and with reference to any peculiarities of mind and manner, the visit ended in my being requested to bring him over to the Vale of Health."

"That was a 'red-letter' day in the

young poet's life, and one which will never fade with me while memory lasts. The character and expression of Keats' features would arrest even the casual passer-by in the street; and now they were brought to a tone of animation that I could not but watch with interest, knowing what was in store for him from the bland encouragement, and Spartan deference in attention, with fascinating conversational eloquence, that he was to encounter and receive. As we approached the Heath, there was the rising and accelerated step, with the gradual subsidence of all talk. The interview, which stretched into three "morning calls," was the prelude to many afternoons and summerings about Caen Wood and its neighborhood; for Keats was suddenly made a familiar of the household, and was always welcomed. In connection with this, take Hunt's own account of the matter, as given about ten years after the event in his volume, "Lord Byron and His Contemporaries":

"To Mr. Clarke I was indebted for my acquaintance with him. I shall never forget the impression made upon me by the exuberant specimens of genuine though young poetry that

(Continued on Page 4)

R. V. C. SECTION

THE COAL-FIELDS OF SASKATCHEWAN

Description of the Country and Mines of the Roche Perceé Valley

South Eastern Saskatchewan contains a large number of coal mines. The coal secured is, of course, only lignite, but this is so near the surface that in many cases it is only necessary to scratch the soil to get your winter's supply of coal. The hills of the Roche Perceé valley are tunneled as if by huge badgers. The farmer, in search of coal, backs his wagon against one of the black openings and in a short time his supply is carried to him up the sloping shaft. All this is comparatively primitive, but there are a few mines of a more imposing aspect, such as the Taylorton, the MacKobas and Saskatchewan, and the Bienfait mines. The last name, by the way, is invariably pronounced "bean-fate." No embryo French is ever heard in part of the Dominion.

The valley of Roche Perceé has been named from some interesting sandstone formations which are near the town of that name. These are carved by nature into huge arches, on the soft stone of which travellers from all over the world have left their names. Some petrified fish, relics of the glacial age, have also been dug up near the little town. One of these is a stone shark about twelve feet in length, whose head had been cut off and is now lying beside it. About six miles from Roche Perceé is a rock known as the "Moccasin." It is a huge piece of black slate, about fifteen feet long and bearing a strong resemblance to a human foot. This is supported on a sandstone base, which being softer has been much worn by time. The clay of the valley is being used for the construction of bricks and it is hoped that a pottery factory will soon be established. The hills are decidedly picturesque, as they have been strongly hacked during the glacial period. The different strata are clearly exposed and in many cases the clay has been burnt a deep red by forest fires which took place long ago.

The Taylorton and the Manitoba and Saskatchewan Mines are placed midway, between the towns of Bienfait and Roche Perceé. The Manitoba and Saskatchewan mines have been constructed after the English system, that is to say, the shaft runs perpendicularly into the earth. The coal here is about ninety feet under the earth. You enter the mine by means of this perpendicular shaft, shooting down with remarkable rapidity. The cars of coal are carried up by the same device, which is so constructed that when the full car is being emptied at the tipple, ninety feet above ground, the empty car is being filled by the miners, ninety feet below the ground. The full car is weighed at the tipple, then emptied and its burden of coal moves slowly down a slide to the freight car, standing on the track. On either side of the slide, workers are placed to pick out chance pieces of clay as the coal slips past.

Underground, the walls and sides of the passages have been strengthened by beams, although "cave-ins" still occur. The coal is carried to the shaft from the distant tunnels by horses which are stabled underground. Air is sent into the mine by a force pump.

The Taylorton Mines are the oldest in the district and are constructed after a Canadian plan. The shaft is sloping and the cars are sent down or brought up by huge cables. They mount a raised gangway and automatically switch themselves off the track and empty, before starting, unaided, on the return trip. In the Taylorton Mines, horses do not carry the coal to the shaft but the work is done by electric trolleys. These unfamiliar to the mines are consequently kept on the lookout for the live wires overhead, as the tunnels are none too high in places. Here, too, there is a different process for circulating the air. A huge fire is kept burning night and day and starts currents which circulate the air through the mine. To keep the air only where it is needed, doors are fired before the different unused shafts, and boys are stationed to open the doors as the coal cars are heard coming up. These can be heard roaring their way through the darkness, a great distance off.

The method of blasting the coal is also of great interest. A rectangular opening is made on the floor of the tunnel, its full width, and about a half inch in height. Here the charge is laid and, after it was exploded, the miners return to finish the work with their picks.

The inside of these mines is a mazy labyrinth, and in the darkness one is not anxious to get very far away from the guide with his acetylene-lit cap. Often on either side of the path are

THE STRONG BOX

"Build for yourself a strong box,
Fashion each part with care;
When it is strong as your heart can
make it,
Put all your troubles there."

"Hide in it all thought of failures.
And each bitter cup that you quaff,
Lock all your heartaches within it,
Then sit on the lid and laugh."

MARY ASHTON.

NOTICES.

RED CROSS.

All Red Cross knitting must be in to-night as the work has to be delivered to the central Red Cross, early Saturday morning. The secretary closes her accounts this week so all fines must be paid up.

A Handicraft Talk illustrated with lantern slides will be given by Mrs. Wakfield on Tuesday, March 18th, at 8.15 p. m., at the Y. W. C. A., Dorchester street W.

BIG SUCCESS ASSURED FOR JUNIOR PROM.

(Continued From Page 1)

for each supper.

The halls are to be decorated with flags and McGill pennants, and palms have been secured. Flowers will decorate the tables downstairs.

An invitation has been sent to the officers of the 42nd Battalion to be present, and it is anticipated that a good number will be in attendance.

Programmes will be given out in exchange for the tickets, and the dance will begin at nine o'clock sharp, in order that the whole programme may be followed.

Mrs. Moyse, Miss Hurlbatt, Mrs. Adams and Mrs. Armstrong have kindly consented to act as patronesses.

The programme appears below:

Extra—One Step.

1—One Step.

2—Fox Trot.

3—Waltz.

4—One Step.

5—Fox Trot.

6—Waltz.

7—One Step.

8—Fox Trot.

9—Waltz.

1st Supper Sitting.

Extras. 1—One Step.

2—Fox Trot.

Supper Extra Waltz.

10—One Step.

11—Fox Trot.

12—Waltz.

13—One Step.

14—Fox Trot.

15—One Step.

16—Waltz.

Extra.

1—One Step.

2—Fox Trot.

3—Waltz.

4—One Step.

5—Fox Trot.

6—Waltz.

7—One Step.

8—Fox Trot.

9—Waltz.

Extras. 1—One Step.

2—Fox Trot.

2nd Supper Sitting.

Supper Extra Waltz.

10—One Step.

11—Fox Trot.

12—Waltz.

13—One Step.

14—Fox Trot.

15—One Step.

16—Waltz.

ENTRY LIST SWELLS FOR TRACK MEET

(Continued From Page 1)

Furey.

Announcer—Geo. Smith.

The events for the meet are listed below in the order in which they will take place. The meet will begin at 7.45 p. m. sharp.

1—60 Yards.
2—80 Yards.
3—100 Yards.
4—Three Standing Broad Jumps.
5—Putting the Shot.
6—High School Relay Race.
7—One Mile.
8—Hop, Step and Jump.
9—High School Relay Race.
10—High Jump.
11—Inter-Faculty Relay Race.

pools of water which threaten an unpleasant bath for the unwary. The water, here, is very near the surface and pumps are frequently kept at work draining the shafts.

Great quantities of this lignite coal are in use in Saskatchewan. After the war it is hoped that a briquette plant will be established to give more varied uses to the coal of the district. The financial aid for this project was coming from England, so that all operations were suspended during the war.

McGILL MEN TO RETURN ON TUESDAY

(Continued From Page 1)

vates and rose to their present rank. Besides this, they each won three medals, the Victoria Cross, which is the highest award given in the British army, was won by both of them.

The P.P.C.L.I. is expected to arrive on the same day as the C.M.R. The Pats, one of Canada's most famous battalions, was reinforced by the Universities of Canada, men being recruited from all parts of Canada and trained at McGill.

Six reinforcing companies were trained at McGill and officered by McGill men, so that many McGill men have helped to gain the laurels which the Princess Pats have won.

As McGill is so well represented in these two battalions, a holiday is being arranged, to give the men a fitting welcome. If the plans now being arranged, mature, the welcome will be no mean one. It is suggested that a parade of students take place, carrying McGill banners, meeting the battalion when it detains.

McGill is resolved to show these men that she has not forgotten them in their absence.

William S. Hart

—IN—

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A Thrilling Story of a Man's
Man—and a Woman's!—at

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TOSHI DUO
Japanese Jugglers

"HIS MUSICAL SNEEZE"
A Feast of Laughter

Loew's British Canadian News

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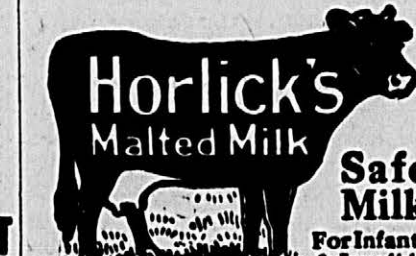
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PHOTOGRAPHS**HUMOUR IN TRAGEDY**

Some time ago, a student was heard to remark that he saw nothing of any point, nothing laughable or humorous in the sketches of Captain Bruce Bairnsfather. That remark did not arise as might be supposed, from the lack of a sense of humour on the part of the student, for indeed he has an undeniable reputation for a witty trend of mind and as a raconteur of humorous anecdotes, he is well acquainted.

On the other hand, Bairnsfather's cartoons achieved great popularity in England and among the British troops, imperial and overseas. "Ole Bill" with his inseparable comrades, Bert and Alf, became to some extent, national figures, amusing and lovable to all. If there ever was a well-thumbed page, it was the one that appeared weekly in "The Bystander" depicting the escapades of the trio.

Taking this into consideration, there is a vast discrepancy to be remarked between the criticism of the student and the approval with which Bairnsfather's work was met, overseas. As we have said, the student cannot be impeached of lacking a sense of humour has a more subtle and deeper than that the English people are lacking in that respect. Indeed, one who has studied the humour of the people on both sides of the ocean, is apt to conclude that the English sense of humour is as fully developed as ours and perhaps more so, for English humour has a more subtle and deeper trend than our, which in the American style, has a tendency to be based on burlesque and exaggeration.

But one cannot say that Bairnsfather's cartoons contain any deep meaning, nor are they at all subtle. They are light to a degree and whatever meaning they possess, is obvious to all, except perhaps in the case of a few which hinge on things peculiar to any life and the intricacies of army slang.

A review of the artist-soldier's work might offer an explanation. The sketches commenced their appearance in "The Bystander" during the first winter of the war. This was a trying period in which the great mass of the English people were realizing the true nature of the struggle that confronted them, a struggle in which it often must have seemed almost impossible to succeed. Then came a time when the energies of the nation were being devoted to their entirety to winning, a time of darkness in which more than once, they saw defeat staring them in the face. The men of England went to war in the ranks of the citizen-army and there fought unflinchingly against terrible odds in numbers, efficiency, experience and munitions. Those were dark days indeed, filled with sacrifice and tragedy. But through it all the people found time and spirit to laugh at Bairnsfather's caricatures which grew to the height of popularity in the second and third years of the war when the British armies were almost fully in the field, suffering heart-breaking defeats and winning victories which were turned into defeats by the pitiable numbers of casualties.

Now that the war is won and finished, Bairnsfather's efforts probably will suffer a decline in popularity. Therein lies the explanation. Bairnsfather's work is a product of the war and can be classed simply as war-time humour. One cannot say that it is witty, scintillating or subtle. It is based on tragedy and its merit lies not in displaying that tragedy but in partly concealing it and softening the pain of it under a veil of laughter.

It may truly be said that the little real humour expressed in any of the drawings is of a forced nature. However, the jokes in Bairnsfather's sketches arise not from circumstances but in spite of circumstances. In so doing they exemplify the spirit which won the war. Nations or individuals are unconquered as long as they can look adversity in the face and smile. The smile may be forced but smiles usually are, when the heart is near the breaking point.

The humour in itself is nothing; it can only be appreciated by sensing the tragedy that lies underneath. It represents in a way the laughter that forces back tears, the song that gives the lie to pain and fatigue, the jest that is uttered when one's knees are weak with fear.

One well-known sketch depicts a tired and "fed-up" soldier sitting by a wall which recently has been penetrated by a shell. He is a tragedy in himself. He represents a shattered career, a pawn of fate taken from the comparative comforts of civilian life and now buffeted by more blows of circumstance than he ever thought could be endured. Even a more tragic figure is presented in the other char-

acter, a young recruits just out from England, keen and full of curiosity, but soon to be rudely disillusioned as regards the glories of war. But Bairnsfather's pencil has thrust the tragedy into the background leaving just enough for us to feel sub-consciously, to that by contrast we can appreciate the reprieve. "What made that hole?" the young chap asks, pointing to the break in the wall. The old-timer is disgusted with the war and disheartened but not enough to prevent him from "carrying on" to his utmost, nor is he willing to admit his defeat in the game. He cuttingly answers, "mice!"

The humour can be fully appreciated only by a sympathetic understanding of the circumstances. The relative proximity of England to the battle-fronts gave the people a chance to see their soldiers while fresh from France, to learn the true conditions under which they lived and to study their psychology. Moreover, the intense popularity achieved by the sketches in England can be accounted for in part by the fact that they were animated by the spirit which found its counter-part in the immense war efforts of the people during those trying times when every energy was mobilized for the one end. Bairnsfather's sketches represent what may be called the "emergency humour" of England, which treats tragedy as comedy and in so doing turns a nation's defeats into final victory.

C. B. ROSS.

ARTS UNDERGRAD. TO MEET AT NOON TO-DAY

Principal Question, Whether
 Coming Dinner Will Be
 Wet or Dry

A question which has long been debated by successive meetings of the Arts Undergraduate Society will once more come up before the meeting to-day, when it will be decided whether the coming dinner will be wet or dry.

A large turnout is expected for the dinner, and the executive wishes to know what the opinion of the society is regarding the form the dinner will take. There seem to be many advocates for both sides, and some hot debates are expected.

The meeting will take place at 12.55 o'clock, immediately after the twelve o'clock lecture is finished, in order that the men may be able to get away in ample time for lunch.

The question of the coming elections will also be brought up and the nominations officially called for. There have already been several nominations up for signatures, and it is almost certain that every position will be well contested.

HISTORICAL SOCIETY HEAR GOOD PAPERS

(Continued from last issue)

By unnecessarily increasing the crews on both American and foreign ships clearing from or entering our ports, the measure is detrimental to trade: for where American ships will be in competition with foreign ships for international business, other than that exported, or imported to, our shores, the foreign vessels can operate more cheaply with a smaller crew. The Japanese were enthused over this bill, for they were convinced that the Pacific trade would soon be theirs. Nor was their enthusiasm seen to be absurd for shortly after the Bill was signed the Pacific Mail Steamship Co. sold 5 of its largest boats, perceiving that it could not compete with foreign lines in western oceans. That these boats were not lost to the United States was due to the war, for vessels of their calibre were very useful for wartime trading on the Atlantic coast and were purchased by the American Transport Co., of Virginia. The Pacific is now practically denuded of an American Merchant Marine.

Since the world war began the American public has been slowly awakening to the realization that a merchant marine is a vital essential to its welfare. The enthusiasm of this realization is being manifested in plans which promise shortly to restore to the seas a Merchant Marine of the size and character that once made American shipping the pride of the new world and the wonder to the old. A Bill favouring government ownership and operation of merchant vessels in our foreign trade was introduced in Congress. This Bill was proposed early in 1915, that it was not popular is evidenced by the fact that it failed of carriage in its original form and that in its revised form it was not passed until 1916. Although many reasonable objections were advanced, among which were (1) that in 10 years or so, the country would require from six to ten million tons of shipping, beside which the 600,000 tons to be provided by the board would amount to little; (2) that the Board while operating its own vessels would also be regulating the rates of its competitors, which would be a curious situation. That private concerns could not compete with a competitor willing to incur indefinite loss because the taxpayers of the country pays the losses; (3) That it was doubtful if 600,000 tons could be secured from ship-yards already overburdened with war orders.

The Bill however was passed in the Senate by a vote of 38 to 21.

Shortly before United States declared war on Germany the Shipping Board was engaged upon a plan to construct wooden cargo vessels to take the place of such steel freighters as would be assigned to collier duties in the event of difficulties. It was estimated by General Benson in 1915, that 400 merchant ships of 1,172,000 gross tonnage would be required for war service, not to mention 320 small boats for mine sweeping. For this only, 700,000 gross tonnage was available, both collier and merchant services stood in dire need of attention. In the middle of April, General Goethals, of Panama canal fame, of German extraction, was appointed by the Board to take charge of the building of 1000 wooden ships. The Board being then left free to lay plans for the construction of steel freighters for the future.

No one would contend that wooden ships are preferable to those of steel, but it was figured that they could be built more rapidly.

The Current Opinion for June, 1917, says the following:

General Goethals and his associates on the shipping board are convinced, we learn, that by building ships of only two or three thousand tons and forcing Germany to pay with a torpedo for each one sent to the bottom, not to mention the torpedoes that miss fire and sink, the United States can rapidly exhaust the resources of the submarine fleet. 150,000 men are required to carry out this shipbuilding program, nearly 10 times the number hitherto employed in such work. The labour problem however was a difficult one, there were not more than 25,000 ship mechanics and 100,000 were needed. Steel was also scarce. Nevertheless the general at once surveyed the field before him and announced that the wooden ships proposition was "simply hopeless." First of all there was not enough dry lumber to be had and that green lumbered vessels, heavily engined, (as would be necessary) would become junk in no time. He contracted therefore for 3 million tons of steel; by some expedient management to procure it. The ships made from this would be finished in 18 months.

Meanwhile the Allies were crying for food cargoes and if United States had had a merchant marine at hand what material assistance she could have offered. The United States and the Allies had to take what comfort they could out of such conditions. The possibility of a fleet of merchantmen within one or a half years' time.

It might be well at this point to give the substance of what William Harris Douglas says in "The Nation's Business." He informs us of the following to be "Some Cold Facts About That Reported Shipping Boom." It seems to me, he says, that we have been flatter ourselves prematurely with

the enormous expansion of our shipyards and the amount of tonnage under construction for a greater American Merchant Marine. The true situation is, that we are now only carrying four or five per cent. increase of American exports in our own ships, beyond what we were handling before the war, and that the net increase in our deep-sea tonnage in new ships since June, 1915, has amounted to only about 100,000 tons.

Nearly one-third of the new ships under construction and contract for foreign trade in American yards is for alien account. For example, Great Britain, since Germany has launched her programme of unrestricted frightfulness, placed nearly \$100,000,000 in contracts with American ship builders. Steamship constructors familiar with British plans say that these contracts for more than 400,000 tons of steel freight carriers are merely forerunners of a tremendous foreign ship construction programme which England will carry on in the United States. This speaks well for United States shipbuilding capacity but ill for the future Merchant Marine.

The United States fleet registered for foreign commerce shows a small gain of about 300,000 tons. The greater number of ships to be turned out in the next year are for large corporations and will not be available for general mercantile requirements. Before the war the United States stood eighth or ninth in the list of maritime powers, having somewhat over one million tons engaged in foreign trade against England's twenty million tons and Japan's 1,700,000 tons, and since then Japan has almost doubled hers. William Douglas said that the United States would probably be in about the same position after the war. The United States does between one-fourth and one-fifth of the entire world's tonnage trade, to handle fifty to sixty per cent. of it they should at least have not less than fifteen million tons of shipping. Such facts should make the United States reflect and aim to change such a situation. Ocean freight rates go on soaring, and cases are known where the hire of a steamer for sixty days was more than the total value of the vessel under normal conditions. Vessels for long voyage business are receiving eight and ten times their ordinary rate. Argentine rates ranging from \$6.40 for 8th class freight rates to \$15.00 for 1st class freight rates. The rates to Europe show even a greater increase, although rates from Europe are lower, consequently other nations are not paying rates as high as the United States are paying.

The orders placed by England with American shipbuilders are interpreted as meaning not only a provision to cope with the U-boat menace, but a post-bellum stroke to take care of her own commerce and help out that of her allies after peace has been declared. As yet, the United States merchant marine is of small account in comparison to the amount of her trade and is a question which will call forth the keenest shrewdness of American statesmen.

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NOTICES

Returned Meds.

Meeting of the Returned Meds. to-day at 5.30, in New Medical Building. Election of officers and other business. All up.

Track Meet Tickets.

Admission tickets for the Track Meet may be obtained from the Hall porter in the Union, or from the class representatives on the Track Club Executive. The price of the tickets is fifteen cents.

Basketball Practice.

The following men are asked to turn out at the gymnasium, to-day, at five o'clock sharp, for practice in preparation for the game with North Branch Juniors to-morrow night:

ACKMAN
BUSSIERE
HYNDMAN
McDOUGALL
FALCONER
BRUCE
JOHNSTON
PARK
BULGER
STANWAY

Chemical Society.

The regular meeting of the Chemical Society will be held this afternoon, at five o'clock, in the Chemistry and Mining Building. Dr. J. S. Bates, director of the Forest Products Laboratories of Canada, will be the speaker, and an interesting meeting is assured in consequence. A subject of very vital importance to Canada has been chosen, "Acetone and Acetic Acid," and one which directly concerns several of our industries, notably the wood distillation plants. Moreover, the possible development in aviation along commercial lines will have a direct bearing upon the production of acetic acid in quantity. Altogether, a very entertaining address is anticipated, and Dr. Bates can be regarded as an authority insofar as such a question is concerned. All who may wish to attend are extended a cordial invitation to hear Dr. Bates.

Swimming Club.

There will be a meeting of the McGill Swimming Club on Friday the 14th, at 5.00 p.m., in the Union. The committee, including the faculty representatives, are asked to be sure to be there. The meeting will be very short, also very important; matters regarding the Aquatic Meet will be discussed.

LEIGH HUNT'S FRIENDSHIP WITH KEATS.

(Continued From Page 2)

were laid before me, and the promise of which was seconded by the fine fervid countenance of the writer. We became intimate on the spot, and I found the young poet's heart as warm as his imagination. We read and walked together, and used to write verses of an evening on a given subject. No imaginative pleasure was left untouched by us, or unemployed, from the recollection of the bards and patriots of old to the luxury of a summer's rain at our window or the clicking of the coal in winter-time.

"With reference to the custom mentioned by Hunt of Keats and himself sitting down on an evening, Cowden Clarke pleasantly describes one such occasion on December 30 of the same year, when the chosen theme was 'The Grasshopper and the Cricket.' The event of the after scrutiny was one of many such occurrences which have riveted the memory of Leigh Hunt in my affectionate regard and admiration for unaffected generosity and perfectly unpretentious encouragement. His sincere look of pleasure at the first line:

"The poetry of earth is never dead."
"Such a prosperous opening!" he said; and when he came to the tenth and eleventh lines:

On a lone winter morning, when the frost
Hath wrought a silence—
"Ah, that's perfect! Bravo Keats!" And then he went on in a dilation on the dumbness of nature during the season's suspension and torpidity. The affectionate enthusiasm of the younger and the older man (himself, he it remembered, little over thirty) for one another's company and verses sometimes took forms which to the mind of the younger and wiser of the two men soon came to seem ridiculous. One day in early spring (1817) the whim seized them... to crown themselves 'after the manner of the elder bards.' Keats crowned Hunt with a wreath of laurel, and each while sitting so adorned wrote a pair of sonnets expressive of his feelings. While they were in the act of composition, it seems, three lady callers came in...

When visitors were announced Hunt took off his wreath and suggested that Keats should do the same; he, however, in his enthusiastic way, declared he would not take off his crown for any human being, and accordingly wore it as long as the visit lasted.

COUNCIL MEETING.

An important meeting of the Students' Council will be held at 5.00 o'clock this afternoon in the Union.

Every member is asked to be present, as this will be the last meeting before the semi-annual meeting of the Students' Society, and much important business will be discussed.

PROF. MCGOUN LECTURES ON GOVERNMENT

(Continued from Wednesday)

A second chamber based on a longer term is like a fifth wheel to a coach for the first part of its period of service, quite useless for a dispassionate consideration of the measures popular at the moment among the electorate, and after the first term of the lower house has run its course it has all the bitterness of party feeling to oppose the will of the people in the last election, a defect which is charged against our own Canadian Senate, but I think I can shew without real foundation.

The principle on which our Senate is based, nomination for life by the Administration of the day, has had the support of all or nearly all the best statesmen British North America has produced, George Brown, Sir John A. Macdonald, Sir George Cartier, Joseph Howe, Sir Charles Tupper, and I think (though this subject to verification) Oliver Mowat. Others have accepted it grudgingly, without committing themselves to the principle involved. Indeed it is surprising how little defence is made to the constant attacks on the Senate, considering the strength of the case on thoroughly sound constitutional principles. Whenever the Senate ventures to oppose any popular measure we are accustomed to a tornado of abuse on the house itself and a threat to reform or abolish it. This is generally received without examination of the undoubted merits of the principle involved. And there is a danger of the Lords being drafted in a form that will not give sufficient weight to this element in the controversy.

The main function for which a second chamber is desirable is to prevent the enactment of laws which, however popular at the moment of the new constitution of the House of election, and however direct in their applying a remedy to some existing cause of disfavor, may have a dangerous effect on some permanent national interest belonging to the nation in its successive interests, the character of the nation from one generation to another. A great nation cannot afford the experiment of turning things upside down at every general election, tearing down the house and rebuilding it because of some defect in the walls or even in the foundation. It is the duty of a second or historic chamber to delay legislation on great fundamental questions and questions of radical importance till the nation has clearly expressed its will, and sometimes by more than one general election. No wise upper house will persist in thwarting the will of the people on any question clearly in issue at the election, unless the measure proposed is drafted in a form to create much greater evils or to undermine the stability of the whole edifice; and if this is the case it is both the function and the duty of a historic chamber to interpose all the obstacles they can under the constitution. The House of Lords rarely, and the Canadian Senate never, has rejected a measure passed a second time after it was in issue in a general election. But let us suppose that some measure which in the opinion of the Senate was likely to wreck Confederation, or to drive a province out of the Dominion, or Canada out of the British Empire, the Senate in my judgment would be justified in rejecting it and in using all possible constitutional means to defeat it.

(To be continued)

B. W. & F. PRACTICE.

Last night the B. W. & F. held its regular practice. The routine of the previous meetings was followed, the men first receiving instruction in the blows and counters already learned, after which they paired off and went to work while Mr. Smith coached them, explaining the necessity of getting the body behind a blow. The men also had a round of shadow boxing. The devotees are now well able to take care of themselves in case of need.

Saturday afternoon at 2.30 a general practice is to be held. Instructor Smith requests every man who has attended any of the boxing or wrestling practices to be present. The men are taking great interest in the work and are doing their best to make the coming smoker a decided success.

CORRESPONDENCE

The Daily is not responsible for the sentiments of letters published in the correspondence columns. Signed communications from graduates, undergraduates and members of the faculties will be placed in print if they are not of too great length.

Correspondents are requested to observe the unwritten law of the newspaper office—that they write upon ONE side of the paper ONLY.

No communication will be admitted in this column without the name of the writer being attached, not necessarily for PUBLICATION.

Dear Mr. Heney.—On behalf of the Executive of the Salvation Army After War Work Campaign, I would acknowledge with more than ordinary appreciation your letter of yesterday enclosing cheque for One Hundred and Forty-eight Dollars and Forty-five Cents (\$148.45) being net proceeds of the hockey match between the teams of McGill and Loyola Colleges.

This contribution of the two clubs constitutes an incident which is gratifying, not only as to amount, but even more so as representing an expression of good will and good citizenship which augurs well for the future of Canada.

Will you kindly convey to each of the players and to all who participated in bringing about this happy event the warmest gratitude of the members of the Executive and their kindest greeting.

Sincerely and appreciatively yours,
A. D. MURPHY, Chairman.

The Editor, McGill Daily:

Dear Sir,—The following letter has been received from a Serbian friend at Rome:

Rome, 4th February, 1919.
Dear Friend,—In this letter I will write you about a very unpleasant incident that happened the other day at our university. It was not our fault, but that of our colleagues, the Italians.

Here is the incident that happened about ten days ago:

Our Italian colleagues have asked us to do nothing less than renounce Yugoslavia, and all this in a written statement, and to declare also that we are disgusted with her—(Yugoslavia). We have flatly refused this impertinent request, giving as reason that in doing so we would have disgusted ourselves, and that we cannot do it, for we are also Yugoslavs. For such a declaration we were hissed, with expressions such as "Down with the Serbs." To these provocations we were cool and collected, and we told our colleagues "We thank you," and left the lectures collectively.

We are awaiting an answer from our government, and are sure that under those and similar conditions we cannot continue the lectures, and that, therefore, there is a probability that we are going to leave here. Of course, we do not know for sure where we are going, probably to Serbia, even if our university is demolished.

Yours,

(Signed) PETCHINAR.

For a better understanding, I have to explain this matter as follows:

In Rome there are about 150 students left from 1,500, the number at the beginning of the hostilities, known as Students of the University of Serbia. All the students left for the front at the first call, and only 350 (from which 120 were sent to Rome, the others to England and to France) were left, and these, on account of being disabled and unfit for military service, all being invalids so to speak. To-day, those 120 heroes and martyrs that have undergone all the imaginable privations while on the way through the inhospitable mountains of Albania, having fought a gallant fight for freedom, justice and democracy against Teutonic tyrants, are sent away from the university like beggars and thieves, and all on account of not having agreed with the egoistic and imperialist ideas of a clique of Italian politicians, a clique that are Slav-haters, and all because they did not want to be traitors to their kinsmen in the South, and finally renounce themselves.

I am sure that the whole civilized world, especially our brethren in the universities, will strongly protest against such provocation and incorrect action on the part of the Italian students, and am also sure that these protests will find an echo amongst the members of this great university of ours in this Dominion, because no such actions have ever been written in the annals of any Alma Mater, I dare say even not within the borders of our defeated enemies, the unspeakable Hun and Turk.

V. J. VOYNOVITCH.

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